

**TOWN OF SLAUGHTER BEACH**  
**INSTRUCTIONS TO ABSENTEE VOTERS**  
**ELECTION 2015**

**VOTER QUALIFICATIONS**

**Pursuant to §3.5 of the Town Charter**

Any qualified voter of the Town of Slaughter Beach may cast his/her vote by absentee ballot in any Town election if he/she is unable to appear at the regular polling place on the day of any municipal election. Any person shall be qualified to vote who, on the date of the election:

1. Is a United States citizen
2. Has attained eighteen (18) years of age
3. Has, for a period of not less for a period of not less than thirty (30) consecutive days immediately preceding the date of the election has been either:
  - (a) a freeholder in the Town ('FREEHOLDER' shall be deemed to include any natural person\* who holds title of record either in his/her own name or as trustee to a fee simple estate or to a life estate, in and to real property located within the Town boundaries.)

OR

(b) domiciled in the Town. ('DOMICILED' shall mean physically residing in that place where a person has his/her true, fixed, and permanent home and principal establishment, and to which, whenever he or she is absent, that person has the intention of returning; provided however, that absence from one's place of domicile for some temporary purpose shall not terminate that domicile so long as the intention to return to that place remains fixed, certain, and constant during the period of physical absence.)

\* Please note that if property ownership is held in an LLC, corporation, or other similar artificial entity, the property is not held by a "natural person" and individuals with an ownership interest in the LLC, corporation, or other similar entity would not qualify to vote as freeholders but could still qualify to vote if they are domiciled in town.

The most recent Sussex County Property Tax records available as of May 1<sup>st</sup> shall be considered proof of address for all individuals identified in those records as Slaughter Beach property owners (FREEHOLDERS.) A Supplemental List of Property Owners will be created for those property owners not on the Sussex County Property Tax records who can provide the Town with proof of address. The Sussex County Property Tax Records and the Supplemental List of Property Owners shall be available for review by property owners in Slaughter Beach. The records will be available at the Town Council Meeting on June 8<sup>th</sup>, the Annual Town Meeting, and on the Town's website after June 12<sup>th</sup>, and at the Town Office every Saturday in June from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 pm (noon.) Property owners may also submit a request to the Town via telephone or electronic mail ([townofslaughterbeach@comcast.net](mailto:townofslaughterbeach@comcast.net)) to ascertain whether or not they are listed on the Sussex County Property Tax records or the Supplemental List of Property Owners. All individuals whose names are on the Sussex County Property Tax records or the Supplemental List of Property Owners will be required to provide proof of identity to vote at the election. Individuals whose names do not appear on the Sussex County Property Tax records or the Supplemental List of Property Owners will be required to provide proof of identity and proof of residence or ownership at the time of voting.

According to the Delaware State Code, the identification shall be 1 or more of the following items that individually or together show the identity and address of the person:

1. A current State of Delaware driver's license or ID card;
2. A uniformed service ID card;
3. Another current photo ID issued by the State of Delaware; U.S. Government; the voter's employer, high school or higher education institution;
4. A current utility bill, bank statement, credit card statement, a paycheck or pay advice, or another type of bill or statement;
5. A lease or sales agreement; and/or
6. Any other documentation that a person can reasonably and commonly accept as proof of identity and address.

OR

Personal recognition by a majority of the Election Officers in the polling place can attest to a voter's identity and address.

**This year absentee balloting will be available.** Any individual wishing to vote by absentee ballot must request a ballot by filing an affidavit of qualifications with the Town no later than 12:00 pm (noon) July 3. An affidavit to request an absentee ballot is available on the Town of Slaughter Beach website at <http://slaughterbeach.delaware.gov/> under the Town Election Information tab. It may also be requested by sending an email to [townofslaughterbeach@comcast.net](mailto:townofslaughterbeach@comcast.net) or in writing to the Town at 357 Bay Ave, Slaughter Beach, DE 19963-4909 or by telephone at (302) 424-7659. (Please leave a message.) When the affidavit is received, a ballot will be mailed to you. For all voters who have returned their affidavits to the Town, the absentee ballots will be mailed no more than twenty seven (27) days (June 8<sup>th</sup>) and no less than four (4) days (June 29<sup>th</sup>) prior to the day of the election (July 4<sup>th</sup>.) For affidavits received after 12:00 pm (noon) on June 29, the individual filing the affidavit will be responsible for picking up the absentee ballot from the Town in person. The ballot must be filed with the Town no later than 12:00 pm (noon) on the day of the election. In addition, the Town Office will be open every Saturday in June from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 pm (noon.) A qualified absentee voter may pick up an affidavit during those hours. He or she may also complete the absentee ballot affidavit, show identification, and complete an absentee ballot at that time. **If you request an absentee ballot, you must use it to vote. You will not be permitted to vote by machine on the day of the election.**